

AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS

THE PROPER FEED

FOR GROWING CHICKENS

As soon as chickens will eat whole wheat, cracked corn and other grains the small sized chick feed can be eliminated. In addition to the above feeds the chickens' growth can be hastened if they are given skim milk, skim milk or butter-milk to drink.

Growing chickens kept on a good range may be given all their feed in a hopper, mixing two parts by weight of cracked corn with one part of wheat, or equal parts of cracked corn, wheat and oats in one hopper and the dry mash in another. The dry mash may be left out of the dry mash and fed in a separate hopper, so that the chickens can eat all of this feed they desire. If the dry mash is to be fed separately it is advisable to wait until the chicks are 10 days old, the poultry division of the United States department of agriculture advises, although many poultrymen put the dry mash before the young chickens at the start without bad results.

Chickens confined to small yards should always be supplied with green feed. Fine charcoal, grit and oyster shell should be kept before the chickens at all times, as the cracked or ground bone may be fed where the chickens are kept in small, bare yards, but the latter feed is not necessary for chickens that have a good range.

TWO DISEASES TO WATCH.

Cucumbers and muskmelons sometimes have mysterious complaints and get the dying habit without any apparent cause. The two commonest of these ailments are "wilt" and "downy mildew." The latter is the most destructive pest in the way of a plant disease that hits the cucurbits, as the members of the family are known. It is a fungus disease and Bordeaux mixture is the remedy. It is an excellent idea, to be on the safe side and give the cukes and melons a good spraying with Bordeaux as soon as they start to run. It

is much easier than attacking the disease after it appears.

The symptoms are angular spots of the leaves, which at first are not well defined, but later assume distinct form, the older leaves turning yellow and the small leaves at the ends of the vine going last. The under side of the leaves will show a faint purplish covering on these spots. This pest often does not appear at all. Again it will raise havoc. It generally appears the latter half of the summer. It is a good plan to use a little preventive.

Wilt, just as its name denotes, is a general drooping of the foliage of the vine, which dies without any apparent good reason. An insect carries this spore which causes the trouble by clogging the veins of the plant. Bordeaux with some arsenic in combination is the remedy for this trouble.

Leaf blight sometimes attacks muskmelons and makes short work of them. It appears in the shape of round spots which rapidly increase in size. Bordeaux spraying is the remedy.

A wise gardener will spray his melons and cucumbers once every 10 days with Bordeaux mixture as soon as they begin to make vine. The young growth should be sprayed with care. Whole crops may be saved by this preventive work.

WHEN TO CUT DOWN ASPARAGUS.

The cutting of asparagus for the table should end about the middle of June at the latest in order that the plant may make a top growth and store up strength for the succeeding season. Seedling asparagus plants often become a nuisance around asparagus beds, birds carrying the seeds or children stringing them and scattering them about, so that before one knows it an asparagus is established and it is a hard job to delve for an asparagus root once it gets a good start, for the roots go deep.

The time to cut off the tops is just as the berries begin to turn red and before they have had a chance to ripen sufficiently to fall from the plant. Take away the tops and burn them as soon as they have died sufficiently and spread the ashes on some vegetable or flower bed for their fertilizing content.

CONSERVATION OF PLANT FOOD.

Having always been blessed with rich, fertile soil, and lots of it, gardeners of the United States have fallen behind the rest of the world in what is generally

known as intensive gardening or culture, that is, making the soil yield the most possible in the way of crops. Fertilizing is a fine art with the foreign gardener, particularly the Frenchman.

American gardeners are beginning to realize with the mounting prices of everything, including vegetables, that it is necessary to get the utmost return from the soil, and the study of fertilizers is spreading, unconsciously, it may be. During the summer months when gardening work slackens after the heavy tasks of spring planting, it is time to look after the fertilizer supply. A neglected supply is a sore.

When the stoves or furnaces are cleaned out, if they are soft coal burning, save the soot scraped from the pipes. Stow it away in a barrel for use. It is a fertilizer and an insecticide, even more valuable as the latter than the former. Seed houses sell imported Scotch soot at \$4.50 per hundred pounds. It is not necessary to import it.

The chief benefit of soot, which is used as a top dressing on the soil, is in banishing cutworms and grubs. A dressing of soot hoed in or leached in will discourage these evil-doers which work under ground, where their depredations cannot be noticed until they have been accomplished. Soot is a fine preventive of the grubs which sometimes attack radishes or onions.

There are certain diseases which infect the roots of plants, such as the root aphid. A dressing of soot in the spring will drive away the egg-laying insect. Every little help in the garden makes for better crops and it is as easy to save the soot as to throw it away.

DON'T BE AFRAID TO THIN-OUT.

Now is the time to watch the root crops such as turnips, parsnips, carrots, beets and others and see that they have plenty of room. They may be left fairly thick in the row a couple of weeks after they are up without any great damage, but as soon as they begin to attain luxuriant foliage start to thinning them out so that there will be plenty of room for the root to develop in proportion to the top.

Luxurious tops do not necessarily mean good bottoms if they are too close in the row. Transplant if necessary and desirable to save some of the extras. Beets may be pulled for greens, thinning to the proper distance, which ought to be about six inches if they are desired as a fully developed root crop.

There is more loss in real vegetable value by close crowding, so that the gardener does not get anything like the crop he should, than from any other cause. It is better that they should be 12 or 18 inches apart than too close.

Don't be afraid to thin.

Blueberries on "Worthless" Land.

Luxurious blueberries—many of which are three-fourths of an inch in diameter—that sell for \$10 a bushel! Such is the product secured by a New Jersey grower, whose principal business has been growing cranberries, but who more recently has taken up the cultivation of blueberries. At present he has 25 acres which he has planted, in part, with carefully selected wild blueberry stock, and, in part, with hybrids furnished by the bureau of plant industry of the United States department of agriculture. Not only are the berries on this tract of very high quality but the yield is prolific, the older plants producing at the rate of nearly 100 bushels to the acre. The plantation is situated at Whitesbog, near Browns Mills.

The success of this grower is but one instance of what is being done commercially by men who are utilizing the information supplied by the department of agriculture. The latter have made a study of blueberry culture for several years and are ready to furnish data regarding the best varieties and the most suitable soils. Of particular significance

is the fact that blueberries thrive best on peat and sand soils, so acid as to be considered worthless for ordinary agriculture. Thus through blueberry culture it is possible to utilize many tracts which have been regarded as especially hard and unpromising.

NORTH STONINGTON

Rev. and Mrs. Lucian Drury, Mrs. H. M. Perkins, Mrs. L. F. Park and Mrs. C. C. Gray, delegates from the Third Baptist church, also Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Main, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Main, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Gray, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Main, Clarence H. Main, Mrs. Otto H. Nelson, Mrs. T. P. Norman and Mrs. W. A. Phillips attended the meeting of the Stonington Union association at Noank. The year-old daughter of Victor Santti and the two-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, of Westport, Conn., who were visiting in town, were christened at the Congregational church Sunday morning.

The morning service at the Third Baptist church was conducted by Judge C. C. Gray. Reports of the meetings of the Stonington association were given by some who attended them.

Mrs. O. D. Fisher went to Norwell, Mass., Tuesday, to assist in caring for her father, Rev. T. Roscoe, who recently suffered a fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto H. Nelson, who have been living in New Jersey, have returned to this town and taken rooms in the house with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer E. Maine.

Mr. and Mrs. William B. Appleton have been visiting in Boston.

Frank A. Thompson, who went to New Haven for medical treatment three weeks ago, does not improve.

Mr. and Mrs. George H. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Thompson and Miss Sarah P. Thompson heard Russell H. Conwell give an famous lecture, Acres of Diamonds, in Noank last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard R. Main and Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Gray attended the wedding of their cousin, Lester A. Main, to Miss M. Benjamin in Preston City last week.

The item in this correspondence last week in regard to the amount received by C. E. Chapman for strawberry plants the present season was made by the typewriter to appear \$752. It should have been \$1,752—a difference of one thousand dollars in Mr. Chapman's favor.

The elementary schools of the town held graduating exercises in Wheeler library Monday afternoon, under the direction of F. J. Penley, state supervisor.

A pleasing program of songs and recitations was given by the junior pupils. Diplomas were awarded Amy Chapman, Hattie Main, Frankie Mattison and Hazel Sellers.

Miss Ruby R. Park closed her school in Farmington, Stonington, Saturday, with a picnic at Atlantic Beach.

Mrs. Fannie G. Stone is ill. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer E. Maine and son and Mrs. T. P. Norman attended services Sunday morning at the First Baptist church, in Stonington borough.

SOUTH KILLINGLY

School closed Tuesday for the summer vacation. Miss Kelley and pupils enjoyed a picnic in Phillips grove.

Mrs. Fred Shippee is entertaining her niece, Tessie Potter, of Danielson.

Inez Mac Doane of The Lodge was a member of the K. H. S. graduating class.

Mrs. William Slater visited friends in Danielson Saturday.

Wills Hill and family of Central Village were visitors at A. A. Jacques' on Sunday.

Elyon Place, and family of Foster, Miss Place and William Burgess of Providence and the Misses Spaulding of Auburn were entertained at G. W. Barlow's Sunday.

Paul Francis and Beatrice Coffey were the only pupils who had a perfect attendance at school for the whole year.

S. A. Douglass visited North Sterling

LEONARD BRIDGE

Burnette W. Cummings of South Manchester and Leo G. Cummings of Waterbury were recent visitors at Rexford Cummings.

Miss Marjorie M. Collins of Willimantic spent Wednesday night with Mr. and Mrs. David Walsh and attended the graduating exercises of the pupils of the Lebanon public schools at Lebanon Center, Wednesday evening.

The Salmon W. Clark farm owned by Mrs. Joseph G. Leites of New York has been sold to a New York Jewish purchaser.

Harold S. Maine of Windham was a recent visitor in this place.

Miss Louise Iles is home from New Jersey for the summer.

NORTH STERLING

Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Crowell, who left here June 10 in their automobile for a trip overland to California, have given up the trip for the present, as Mr. Crowell is ill at Robert Treat hotel, in Newark, N. J.

Mrs. Iola Brayton was in Rockland R. L. the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cole were in North Sterling, R. L. Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Newcomb were in Worcester, Mass., the past week. Mrs. Iola Owens of Danielson is visiting friends here.

Children's Sunday was observed at the First church by recitations and special music. The church was decorated by the Four-Leaf Clover club.

Horace Swan attended the reunion of his regiment in Providence.

Wood and Dorrance schools closed on June 17 for the summer vacation.

SOUTH WINDHAM

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred M. Smith of South Windham and Mrs. Reynolds and daughter, Miss Leora Reynolds of Hartford, were guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Garrett W. Smith. Misses Helen and Marjorie Smith returned home with them for a few weeks' visit.

Miss Gladys Backus, who has been

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teaching in Pomfret is at her home for the vacation.

Miss Maud Smith, teacher in one of the schools in Saybrook, is at her home.

Mrs. Mary Crane left Monday to be the guest of Mrs. Martha Potter, Bristol, and to attend the wedding of her son, Perry Crane, who is employed in Waterbury, and Miss Esther Pilon of Bristol June 23.

The C. E. meeting Sunday evening was led by Miss Iva Adams. Topic, Being Honest With Ourselves and With God.

Among the graduates from Windham High school, Willimantic, last week are two young people from this village, Miss Sarah Holmes, Abbe and Raymond Healey.

W. L. Bell has purchased the John Rose property on Machine Shop hill, formerly known as the Elihu Upton property.

School closed Tuesday with four graduates, George Healey, Nils Oman, Henry Holden and Claude Doubleday who received diplomas.

Georgetown.—This place will have its customary celebration of the Fourth of July and a parade and other festivities are being arranged.

The graduating exercises of the Center grammar school will be held in the town hall this (Wednesday) evening.

The entertainment given in the town hall last week Wednesday evening by the Amston people was a great success, the hall being crowded. Especially pleasing was the doll drill given by the small girls, which was well done and very pretty.

The members of the L. A. S. of the Congregational church are planning a catered supper.

Dwight and Earl Tucker of Hartford were the guests of their mother, Mrs. F. A. Burnham, over the week end.

Miss Irma Lord was home from Willimantic for the week end.

A large number of the Hebron Masons with their wives attended the annual Masonic banquet in Colchester Friday evening.

Miss Florence Smith was home from New Haven over Sunday.

For the man who can pay for it with honestly acquired coin the best is not too good.

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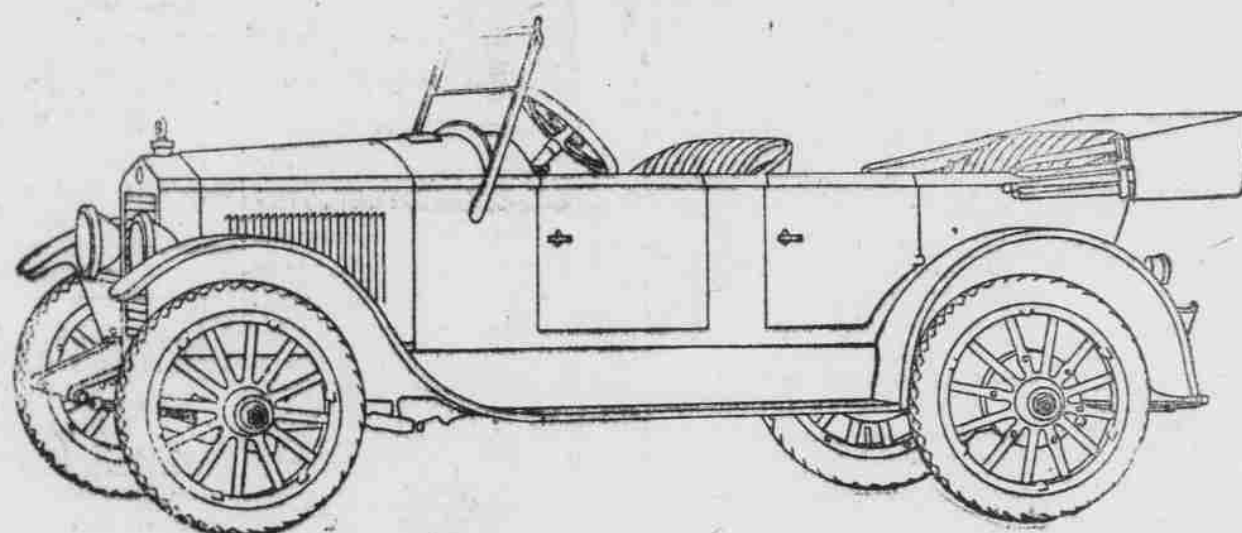
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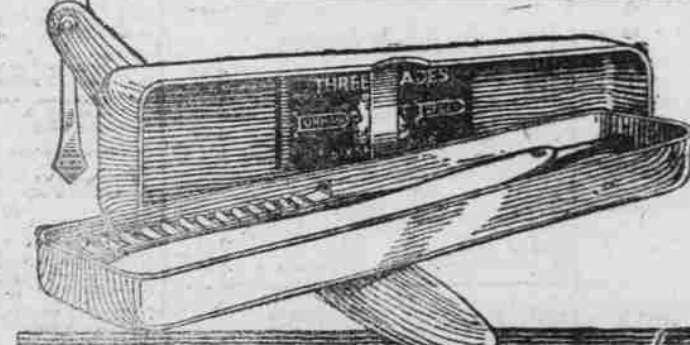
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